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September 24, 2002

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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

OCT 01 2002

Technology Center 2100

Re: Applicant(s): Paul J. Murphy
Assignee: Dell USA, L.P.
Title: Engineering Process for Procuring Components/Peripherals
Serial No.: 09/420,696 Filed: October 19, 1999
Examiner: Jean B. Fleurantin Group Art Unit 2171
Docket No.: DC-02028

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the following documents in the above-identified application:

- (1) Return Receipt Postcard;
- (2) This Transmittal Letter; and
- (3) Response to Non-Final Office Action.



No additional fee is required.



The fee has been calculated as shown below:


CLAIMS AS AMENDED

	Claims Remaining After <u>Amendment</u>		Highest No. Previously <u>Paid For</u>		Present <u>Extra</u>	<u>Rate</u>	Additional <u>Fee</u>
Total Claims	36	Minus	36	=	x	\$18	\$ 0.00
Independent Claims	4	Minus	4	=	x	\$84	\$ 0.00




The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 502264

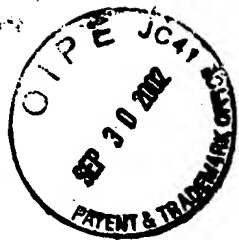
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, Washington, D.C./20231, on September 24, 2002.


Attorney for Applicant(s)

9/24/02
Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,


Stephen A. Terrile
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 32,946



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Austin, Texas
September 24, 2002

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D. C. 20231

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office action dated July 8, 2002, having a shortened statutory period expiring October 8, 2002. Further examination and reconsideration are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks set forth below.

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

The following is a clean version of the entire set of pending claims. In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.121(c)(1)(ii), Attachment A provides marked up versions of the claims containing the newly introduced changes.

- C1
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1. (As Amended) A method for procuring a manufactured component through a plurality of development stages, the method comprising:
providing a database for storing information related to procuring the manufactured component;
sharing the database among a plurality of relevant parties, at least one of the relevant parties comprising an outside vendor;